

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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**Weather:** Weather stations in the western and north central areas of the State recorded low temperatures in the thirties and forties, whereas, low temperatures in the eastern and south central areas were in the twenties and thirties. Most high temperatures were in the sixties and seventies; however, Medford, Redmond, and Rome reported high temperatures in the eighties. All weather stations reported precipitation last week except for five stations, which included Moro, Bend, Redmond, LaGrande, and Union. Most areas along the coast received over an inch of rainfall last week, while Tillamook received more than two inches. Astoria/Clatsop and Tillamook recorded rainfall six days.

**Field Crops:** Activities last week included fall planting, tillage and fertilizer applications as well as some late haying and silage harvest. Showers in the western part of the State hampered fieldwork. As of October 16th, 48 percent of the winter wheat had been planted Statewide and 16 percent had emerged. Fall grain seeding was underway in Baker County. Recent rains have improved topsoil moisture supplies in Wasco and Sherman counties. New grass seed plantings were emerging throughout the Willamette Valley.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pastures continued to show some improvement from recent precipitation. Re-growth has been slow and many producers delayed moving livestock into fall pastures to allow more time for recovery. Rangeland grass in north central Oregon continued to be very poor.

Cattle producers continued weaning calves and working herds. Livestock were reported in good condition throughout the State.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Fall maintenance of nurseries and greenhouses continued throughout the State this past week. Nursery sale activities in Clackamas County is increasing as shipments go out of State. Greenhouses in Jackson County were still busy last week with fall and winter decorative plants. Fall mums were reported to be ready in Washington County.

**Vegetables:** Pumpkins were abundant across western Oregon as Halloween approached. Sweet corn harvest was complete in Washington County. Cabbage growers began picking in Clackamas County. Squash harvest continued. Onion and potato harvest was winding down and should be finished next week.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Hazelnut harvest continued throughout the Willamette Valley; reported yields vary substantially among orchard sites. Some growers were finishing their second time over the orchards. Grape harvest was nearly finished in Douglas County, but ongoing otherwise. Reported yields in Yamhill County were down, but growers are hoping for good quality. Winter pear harvest was complete in Parkdale. Some late season apples remain to be picked. Postharvest orchard cleanup continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Pear harvest is nearly finished in southern Oregon. Some fall orchard spraying was done.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 10/16/05**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	12	41	46	1
Subsoil	25	52	23	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 10/16/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	48	29	77	61
Winter wheat emerged	16	6	29	28
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.3

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 10/16/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	14	27	46	13	0

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** The weather in the Willamette Valley has turned to the cool days of fall. Had light rain this week and the grass crops are now planted.

**CLACKAMAS:** Off and on showers continued to hamper much fieldwork. Fall vegetable crops remain in good supply for farmers markets as well as for the wholesale markets. Harvest still ongoing for hazelnut, grapes, pumpkins, and sweet corn. Just starting for cabbage and Christmas trees. New grass plantings coming up. Still waiting for the first killing frost. Pumpkin patch activity started to increase during the week. Most berry fields have been cultivated and fertilized before winter sets in. Nursery sales activity is increasing with shipments leaving the State. Fall bareroot digging is getting underway. Livestock are in good condition and dryland pastures continue to make improvement.

**COOS/CURRY:** Cooler in the mornings with foggy areas particularly along the coast and along the rivers, more fall like conditions. Warm and breezy in the afternoons with significant winds over the weekend. No cranberry frost events were recorded at the Bandon location during the week.

**DOUGLAS:** Orchard crops finishing. Fuji and Granny Smith harvest still going but will finish this week. Grape harvest also winding down with less than ten percent of the grapes still in the field. Harvest has gone well for grapes with quality holding nicely despite a few October rains. Field grown nursery crops being dug and potted or burlapped for fall or winter shipping.

**HOOD RIVER:** Winter pear harvest was completed in Parkdale. Some late season apples remain to be picked. Postharvest orchard clean up continued throughout the Hood River Valley.

**JACKSON:** Fall grain planting is getting well underway since there has been some rain. Still some hay being made but with some rain on the weekends it is hard to get it dry and baled. Pear harvest is just about done. Some fall orchard spraying getting started mostly for weed control. Most all other fruit now harvested except for grapes. They are being picked when sugar content is up. Still some vegetables being harvested and still a good supply at the outlets. Lots of pumpkins out for sale as Halloween approaches. Greenhouses still busy with fall and winter decorative plants. Lots of nice plants out for sale at stores.

Nurseries still doing plants, trees and shrub upkeep. Some fall planting of trees and shrubs so some sales being made. Most livestock looking good. Cattle are being brought down from the high country and branding or marking of calves being done. Lots of weaning. Pastures are starting to show more green as we get rain showers. Had some rain showers on the last three weekends. Not enough but at least it is a start and does help with fall plantings as well as helping to green-up pastures. It was a fair week for field preparation and crop harvesting. Days a bit cooler now as fall is well underway.

**JOSEPHINE:** Cooler days and nights, wonderful work weather. Truck gardens winding down. Still no killing frost in our area and the tomato plants are looking very good.

**POLK:** Planting and fertilizing of pastures before the rain on Saturday morning. Pasture starting to green some; they had been little slow to green. Most will wait another week or so for turn out to allow more recovery. Regular crop activities include planting of grass seed and small grains.

**WASHINGTON:** Late planted small grain may be duck feed if rain continues. Some field corn is still to be harvested and about half in silo. Haying done. Filberts continue to be harvested. Walnuts maturing. Berries prepared for winter. Sweet corn finished. Squash being harvested. Pumpkins abundant and tomatoes lingering on. Normal fall activities for greenhouses and nursery crops. Fall mums are ready. Pasture greening up. Supplemental feeding continues.

**YAMHILL:** Reports earlier in the week were for tractors getting stuck in mud trying to harvest the silage. Hazelnuts are reporting yields all over the place from fifty percent of last year to twenty five percent of last year. Heard that grapes are at about fifty percent of a normal crop but hoping for very good quality. Lots of planting is going on as moisture is being taken advantage of. Hazelnut harvest continues with some growers finishing their second time over the orchards. Some fall copper sprays are being applied to stone fruits.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Weather conditions in have been very mild with cold nights and warm days. Fall grain seeding is underway with excellent planting conditions. Fall pasture continues to be very short for the area's livestock producers.

**GILLIAM:** Light rains did not change overall topsoil moisture conditions.

**HARNEY:** Weaning and early shipping under way.

**KLAMATH:** Not enough rain to disrupt normal field activities. Potato harvest continued, not much fall grain planting yet.

**LAKE:** Morning and evening temperatures remain cool--had frost several mornings during the week. Received some precipitation during the weekend.

**MALHEUR:** Good weather most of last week; however, rain on 10-11 stopped most field operations in Vale and Ontario. Nyssa and south of Nyssa got very little. The harvest of alfalfa has resumed. A lot of fall field work is being caught up. Sugarbeet harvest has just begun. Corn grain harvest is underway and corn silage harvest is just about finished. Onion and potato harvest winding down and should be pretty well done by end of next week. Sugar beet harvest getting started. Still some hay down.

**SHERMAN:** Evaluation of range lands is very poor. Grass only had short growing season following a late green up due to extreme drought conditions followed by a short rain period that was enough to jumpstart the grasses, but not enough to sustain them. Grass is an annual recrop and no annual recrop (non-irrigated) succeeded in Sherman County this summer. Rain that started the last day of September brought welcome relief and got farmers busy in the field. Many worked to kill the cheat and goatgrass while others just started seeding with ORCF101 and figured to spray the weeds out later. There is good moisture in seed zone and warm temperatures so hopefully wheat will be up soon and roots will be big enough to follow the moisture down.... Or maybe we'll get lucky and actually get some moisture.

**WALLOWA:** Cooler weather has helped with livestock, but some producers in the upper valley still have grain to harvest.

**WASCO:** Temperatures continued seasonal through the week with several rain showers. The top soil moisture is adequate for fall grain seeding. Wheat planting continued rapidly and all fields are greening up quickly from the recent rains. Even the current year's stubble fields are getting green from wheat lost during harvest, and a number of cattle herds are now taking advantage by grazing these fields. Most orchard activity was coming to a close by the week's end.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 16, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

Station	Air temperature <sup>1</sup>				Growing <sup>2</sup> Degree days		Last week precip. <sup>3</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>4</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	44	65	55	+2	33	+9	1.17	0.02	6	4.64	-0.67	87	22
Bandon <sup>5</sup>	44	65	56	+2	41	+12	1.12	0.36	2	1.58	-1.61	50	8
Crescent City	40	63	53	-3	23	-20	1.55	0.65	3	2.87	-0.65	82	18
Florence	41	67	55	-1	36	-1	1.35	0.18	5	5.60	0.77	116	19
Tillamook	39	66	55	+3	38	+14	2.11	0.69	6	8.36	1.65	125	22
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>5</sup>	42	67	56	+3	45	+20	0.39	-0.24	4	3.10	-0.02	99	12
Corvallis	40	70	56	+3	44	+16	0.23	-0.36	2	2.39	-0.31	89	15
Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>	41	72	55	+7	37	+23	0.44	-0.49	3	4.72	0.59	114	13
Eugene	38	72	56	+2	48	+14	0.15	-0.47	1	1.97	-0.91	68	14
Hillsboro	39	67	54	+2	33	+8	0.14	-0.41	6	2.37	-0.27	90	17
McMinnville	41	71	57	+3	48	+18	0.17	-0.45	3	2.22	-0.70	76	15
Portland	44	69	57	+2	50	+13	0.32	-0.20	4	2.75	-0.10	96	17
Salem	40	70	56	+3	45	+20	0.24	-0.33	2	3.42	0.70	126	14
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	40	76	56	-1	48	+0	0.09	-0.36	2	1.05	-0.74	59	8
Medford	38	82	59	+3	64	+21	0.07	-0.21	1	0.67	-0.76	47	8
Roseburg	44	78	59	+4	68	+22	0.29	-0.14	3	1.65	-0.34	83	11
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	36	71	53	+5	26	+14	0.02	-0.19	1	0.86	-0.28	75	6
Echo <sup>5</sup>	35	73	57	+5	51	+27	0.05	-0.09	3	0.44	-0.23	66	10
Heppner	41	70	55	+3	37	+13	0.07	-0.14	1	0.91	-0.37	71	7
Hermiston	35	73	58	+6	57	+33	0.02	-0.12	2	0.53	-0.14	79	8
John Day	36	79	55	+5	39	+20	0.02	-0.19	2	0.59	-0.68	46	10
Madras <sup>5</sup>	35	72	54	+4	28	+9	0.06	-0.08	3	1.50	0.68	183	12
Moro	37	66	53	+3	20	+5	-	-0.14	-	1.70	0.84	198	6
Parkdale <sup>5</sup>	36	67	52	+1	19	-1	0.06	-0.35	2	1.65	-0.32	84	12
Pendleton	37	76	57	+4	50	+23	0.12	-0.05	1	0.87	-0.07	93	8
The Dalles	41	71	57	+6	49	+32	0.03	-0.11	2	0.57	-0.30	66	8
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>	25	71	48	+2	4	-3	0.05	-0.23	5	0.61	-0.57	52	14
Bend	33	75	53	+5	27	+15	-	-0.14	-	0.19	-0.53	26	3
Burns	23	79	49	+3	10	+3	0.28	0.14	1	1.06	0.18	120	6
Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup>	21	74	47	-4	3	-16	0.03	-0.18	1	0.71	-0.30	70	11
Klamath Falls	26	73	50	-2	10	-8	0.07	-0.14	1	0.46	-0.51	47	6
Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>	26	74	50	-2	11	-7	0.04	-0.17	2	0.37	-0.60	38	9
Lakeview	25	73	48	-2	1	-13	0.14	-0.10	2	0.35	-0.79	31	4
Lorella <sup>5</sup>	22	76	48	-3	3	-15	0.03	-0.18	3	0.76	-0.21	78	13
Redmond	28	80	53	+5	26	+11	-	-0.10	-	1.63	1.03	272	7
Worden <sup>5</sup>	21	74	48	-4	4	-14	0.06	-0.15	2	0.60	-0.37	62	8
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	23	72	50	+3	16	+6	0.43	0.29	2	0.95	-0.11	90	7
Joseph	30	74	50	+6	10	+7	0.29	-0.10	2	1.80	-0.40	82	12
La Grande	27	77	53	+4	31	+13	-	-0.28	-	0.79	-0.73	52	5
Prairie City <sup>5</sup>	28	76	51	+9	11	+9	0.06	-0.22	1	1.94	0.32	120	10
Union	28	76	51	+2	18	+3	-	-0.21	-	1.10	-0.42	72	7
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	34	74	53	+1	21	-3	0.21	0.07	2	0.92	0.13	116	8
Rome	29	81	51	+1	21	+3	0.18	0.07	1	1.13	0.29	135	9

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.  
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